

ATOFINA Petrochemicals, Inc.

FAX

Attention: Examiner Cheung
Company: USPTO
From: Tenley Krueger
Date: September 23, 2004
Fax Number: 703-872-9306
Number of Pages: (including this one) 3

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
SEP 23 2004

Examiner Cheung:

Attached is a summary of points we would like to discuss during our interview on September 28th at 2:00. Expert Ken Blackmon will also be in attendance and we look forward to meeting with you.

Serial No. 10/044,759

Title: Method for Removing Volatiles from a Block Copolymer

Filed: January 9, 2002



DRAFT-
NOT FOR ENTRY OR RECORD

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SEP 23 2004

In re Application of:	§
Daumerie, et al.	§
Serial No.: 10/044,759	§ Group Art Unit: 1713
Confirmation No.: 8362	§
Filed: January 9, 2002	§ Examiner: Cheung
For: Method for Removing Volatiles from	§
a Block Copolymer	§
	§
	§

DRAFT RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 18, 2004

In response to the Office Action dated August 18, 2004, the following points are proposed for consideration and discussion.

DISCUSSION POINTS

CLAIM SUMMARY:

- a. passing block copolymerization product through a first devolatilizer at low P to form once devolatilized copolymer; and
- b. passing the once devolatilized copolymer from first devolatilizer to a conduit.

DRAFT-
NOT FOR ENTRY OR RECORD

CLAIM REJECTIONS:

a. **Klussmann- No block copolymer**

Klussman teaches formation of polystyrene chains grafted onto a polybutadiene backbone. *Klussman* nowhere teaches or suggests forming or processing block copolymers, as recited by the instant claims. The process of *Klussman* is further distinguished from the claimed process in that *Klussman* is crosslinking and the instant claims are devolatilizing under gentle conditions to specifically avoid crosslinking. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Tenley R. Krueger
Registration No. 51,253
FINA TECHNOLOGY, INC.
P.O. Box 674412
Houston, Texas, 77267
Telephone: 281-227-5386
Fascimile: 281-227-5383
Attorney for Applicant(s)